

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 3309

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, EC

SUBJ: CEOSL UNITY MOVEMENT CONTINUES

REF: QUITO 2976

1. SUMMARY: UNITY MOVE SPARKED BY EFRAIN REDROVAN TO REUNITE DIVIDED CEOSL HAS SET DATE FOR EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS. ONLY AGENDA ITEM IS SELECTION OF NEW SECRETARY GENERAL AND EXECUTIVE BOARD. DATE OF CONGRESS IS JUNE 21 BUT MUCH WORK MUST BE DONE BEFORE CONGRESS BECOMES REALITY. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING A SERIES OF MEETINGS IN VARIOUS PROVINCES AIMED AT STIRRING INTEREST AMONG THE VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL AND REGIONAL FEDERATIONS FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS TO ACHIEVE UNITY IN CEOSL, A GROUP OF TRADE UNION LEADERS FROM BOTH THE VILLACRES FACTION AND THE CHAVEZ FACTION MET IN GUAYAQUIL MAY 11 TO DECIDE ON THEIR NEXT MOVES. UNDER LEADERSHIP OF EFRAIN REDROVAN OF THE POSTAL WORKERS, REPRESENTATIVES OF 16 FEDERATIONS, ALL AFFILIATED TO CEOSL, DECIDED TO CONVENE AN EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS IN CUENCA JUNE 21. ARTICLE 12 OF CEOSL CONSTITUTION PERMITS CONVENING OF SUCH CONGRESS ON RESOLUTION OF AT LEAST 10 FEDERATIONS AND CONFORMANCE WITH NOTIFICATION AND OEQR PROCEDURES. NOTICE APPEARED IN QUITO'S EL COMERCIO MAY 13 SIGNED BY LEADERS OF 17 FEDERATIONS AND NAMING ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF FIVE PERSONS, TWO
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OF WHOM HAVE BEEN LOYAL TO VILLACRES IN PAST.

3. COMMENT: UNDOUBTEDLY, VILLACRES WILL CHALLENGE
RIGHT OF FEDERATION REPRESENTATIVES TO SPEAK FOR THEIR
ORGANIZATIONS AND MONTH AHEAD WILL BE BUSY WITH EFFORT
TO BOTAIN FEDERATION RESOLUTIONS SUPPORTING CALL FOR
EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS. THE BITTERNESS AND STRIFE
WHICH HAVE CHARACTERIZED RELATIONSHIPS OF THE TWO
FEUDING GROUPS WILL PROBABLY SHARPEN. IF THE CONGRESS
DOES COME OFF, VILLACRES' PRINCIPAL SUPPORTERS IN
GUAYAQUIL WILL PROBABLY BREAK WITH CEOSL, SHOULD
CHAVEZ, AS NOW SEEMS CERTAIN, WIN THE POST OF SECRETARY
GENERAL. SHOULD VILLACRES LOSE, HIS BLOC WOULD
PROBABLY SEEK AFFILIATION WITH THE CTE. SHOULD
VILLACRES WIN, THE ACTION CHAVEZ AND HIS GROUP WOULD
TAKE IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT, BUT IT SEEMS LIKELY
THAT CHAVEZ WOULD RETIRE TO THE BASTION OF HIS
PICHINCHA FEDERATION AND AWAIT ANOTHER CHANCE.
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